B2 11. (Twice Amended) The [method] composition of claim 10, wherein said interferon is recombinant interferon.

B3 16. (Twice Amended) An anti-hepatitis C formulation comprising an immune system-potentiating amount of at least one thymosin or an immune system-potentiating thymosin fragment in combination with an anti-hepatitis C viral effective amount of at least one α-interferon in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, for use in the treatment of a mammal infected with hepatitis C virus.

B4 22. (Twice Amended) The formulation of Claim 16, wherein said anti-hepatitis C viral effective amount of said α-interferon is from about 1 million to about 3 million units of said α-interferon.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-8, 10-17 and 19-24 are pending in the application. Claims 7, 10, 11, 16 and 22 have been amended. The Examiner has indicated that claims 1 and 3-6 are allowed.

Claims 10 and 11 have been objected to. Appropriate correction has been made.

Claims 7, 8, 10-17 and 19-24 have been provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting. Applicants are in the process of determining assignment status of this application and have applied for a certification of Abstract of Title. Applicants will file a terminal disclaimer as soon as the Abstract of Title is received.

Claims 7, 8, 12-14, 16, 17 and 21 have been rejected under 35 USC.§102(b) or in the alternative under 35 USC§103(a) over Huang et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The present invention as claimed in claims 7, 8, 12-14, 16, 17 and 21 is directed to a composition comprising a pharmaceutical dosage unit of a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier containing an immune system-potentiating amount of at least one member selected from the group consisting of thymosin and immune system-potentiating